United Nations A/62/366–S/2007/570

General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Sixty-second session
Agenda items 14, 98 (x) and 108

General and complete disarmament

Prevention of armed conflict: implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Letter dated 20 September 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to my letter of 18 September 2007, I have the honour to transmit herewith the joint statement of the European Union member States and the European Commission, Switzerland, the United States of America and Canada on the situation in northern Mali (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the joint statement circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 14, 98 (x) and 108 and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ami **Diallo**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

07-52243 (E) 021007 031007

Annex to the letter dated 20 September 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in the Republic of Mali, in its capacity as President of the European Union, presents its compliments to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Mali and has the honour to transmit herewith the joint statement of the European Union member States and the European Commission, Switzerland, the United States and Canada on the situation in northern Mali (see enclosure).

Enclosure

Statement of the European Union, Switzerland, the United States and Canada on the situation in northern Mali

Bamako, 6 September 2007

The European Union member States and the European Commission, Switzerland, the United States and Canada, which are represented in Bamako, express their deep concern over the deteriorating situation in northern Mali. They consider the use of violence to represent a threat to the stability and security of the regions of northern Mali.

They resolutely condemn the taking of hostages and use of landmines, which have already claimed a number of victims and which expose the civilian populations of the region to increased risks.

The European Union member States and the European Commission, Switzerland, the United States and Canada reaffirm their support for the efforts made by the Government of Mali and the 23 May Democratic Alliance for Change in safeguarding peace, while respecting the territorial integrity and national unity of Mali.

They reiterate their confidence in the process initiated by the Algiers Agreement of July 2006 and the Kidal Forum of March 2007 and their willingness to continue and strengthen their cooperation for the benefit of all the people of Mali.

United Nations A/62/367–S/2007/571

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General Assembly
Sixty-second session
Agenda items 17 and 18

The situation in the Middle East

Question of Palestine

Security Council
Sixty-second year

Letter dated 24 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

In my capacity as Acting Chair of the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement by the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement on the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, adopted on Friday, 21 September 2007 (see annex).

Furthermore, I request you kindly to circulate the above-mentioned document as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 17 and 18, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rodrigo **Malmierca Diaz**
Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations
Chair of the Coordinating Bureau
of the Non-Aligned Movement

07-52064 (E) 011007

Annex to the letter dated 24 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement on the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem

New York, 21 September 2007

In a dangerous development in the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, on 19 September 2007, Israel's Security Cabinet declared the occupied Gaza Strip "hostile territory", declaring its intention to cut off power and fuel supplies to the already isolated and imprisoned Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip.

This cruel decision by Israel amounts to a violation of international law, including international humanitarian law, and the collective punishment of the entire Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip. It is totally unjustifiable under any pretext and should be condemned.

Israel, the occupying Power, should comply with its legal obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention, which is applicable to the entire Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. In this connection, it must be emphasized that the Gaza Strip remains a part of the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

The Non-Aligned Movement calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, to halt all of its violations and grave breaches of international law and to scrupulously abide by its legal obligations under international humanitarian law as an occupying Power.

Annex to the letter dated 26 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

DECLARATION ON PALESTINE

1. The Ministers of the Non-Aligned Movement reviewed the continuing grave situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. They considered approaches and strategies to be undertaken by the Movement as a whole to continue strongly supporting the Palestinian people and their leadership and for promoting a revival of the peace process towards the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace settlement and the exercise by the Palestinian people of their inalienable right to self-determination in their independent and sovereign State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital. The Ministers recalled in particular the Declaration on Palestine adopted by the Committee on Palestine on 16 September 2006, in Havana, Cuba, during the XIV Conference of Heads of State or Government, as well as the positions concerning Palestine adopted by the Movement in Durban in August 2004 and Putrajaya in May 2006, and affirmed their continued adherence to the views and principled positions expressed therein.

2. The Ministers expressed their deep regret that for forty years the Palestinian people have suffered continuously under the brutal Israeli military occupation of their land since 1967, and that they continue to be denied their fundamental human rights, including the right to self-determination and the right of the Palestine refugees to return. The Ministers expressed their grave concern about the serious deterioration of the situation on the ground at the political, economic, social and humanitarian levels in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as a result of the ongoing unlawful policies and practices being carried out by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people, including continuing grave human rights violations and reported war crimes.

3. The Ministers strongly condemned the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land and the unrelenting aggression by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people, which has resulted, *inter alia*, in the continued killing and injury of Palestinian civilians by use of excessive and indiscriminate force and extrajudicial executions and the vast destruction of properties, infrastructure and agricultural lands. The Ministers also condemned the arbitrary detention and illegal imprisonment of thousands of Palestinians, including children and women and numerous Palestinian officials, and called for their immediate release. They also condemned Israel's continued imposition of measures of collective punishment on the Palestinian people, particularly the imposition of severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods via closures and a vast and discriminatory network of hundreds of checkpoints, some of which have been illegally transformed into structures similar to permanent border crossings in the middle of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, away from the 1967 border (Green Line), and which are physically severing the northern, central and southern parts of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, undermining its territorial integrity and contiguity, and destroying the Palestinian economy. The Ministers demanded that Israel, the occupying Power, immediately cease all of these grave violations of international law, including international humanitarian and human rights law.

4. The Ministers stressed in particular that, in addition to such grave breaches by the occupying Power, the main and core danger to the realization of the inalienable and national rights of the Palestinian people and the achievement of the two-State solution continued to be the relentless and unlawful campaign of settler colonialism and construction of the Wall being carried out by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in Occupied East Jerusalem. They

reiterated their grave concern and strong condemnations regarding Israel's intensive colonization measures, including its continued vast land confiscations and the construction and expansion of settlements, and condemned Israel's illegal attempts to carry out its E-1 plan in and around East Jerusalem and to illegally annex the Jordan Valley. The Ministers reaffirmed the many relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions condemning and demanding the cessation of such illegal Israeli measures, including measures taken by the occupying Power to change the status, character and demographic composition of East Jerusalem, which are null and void, and called for the full implementation of those resolutions. In this regard, the Ministers also called for full compliance with the relevant provisions of the advisory opinion rendered by the International Court of Justice on 9 July 2004 on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*.

5. The Ministers thus considered in depth the continuing grave developments regarding the critical issue of the unlawful construction by Israel, the occupying Power, of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem. They condemned Israel's flagrant defiance of and disrespect for the advisory opinion of the Court and its continued violation of General Assembly resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004. They expressed their deep concern at the grave breaches of international law, including of the Fourth Geneva Convention, that continue to be committed by Israel in this regard, including, *inter alia*, the destruction and requisition of land and properties, the violations of the Palestinian people's freedom of movement and their right to work, to health, to education and to an adequate standard of living, and the displacement of Palestinian civilians from their homes and lands. The Ministers stressed that the Wall, which is causing extreme physical, economic and social devastation, is dissecting the Occupied Palestinian Territory into several walled and isolated cantons, destroying entire communities and severing Occupied East Jerusalem from the rest of the Territory. The Ministers stressed that such illegal and unilateral measures by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, are gravely threatening the prospects for achieving the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders, and expressed their complete rejection of these Israeli measures and policies, stressing that they are unlawful and unacceptable and cannot alter the terms of reference of the peace process begun in Madrid or negate the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, international law and relevant United Nations resolutions.

6. The Ministers reiterated their demand that Israel, the occupying Power, scrupulously respect its legal obligations as mentioned in the advisory opinion and comply fully with resolution ES-10/15, and reiterated their call upon Member States and the United Nations as well to uphold their obligations in this regard. They recalled in specific the Court's determination that Israel is under an obligation to terminate its breaches of international law, to cease the construction of the Wall being built in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, to dismantle the structure therein situated, to repeal or render ineffective all legislative and regulatory acts relating thereto, and to make reparations for all damage caused by the construction of the Wall; that all States are under an obligation to recognize the illegal situation resulting from the construction of the Wall and not to render aid or assistance in maintaining the situation created by such construction and that all States parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention have an additional obligation of ensuring compliance by Israel with the Convention; and that the United Nations, especially the General Assembly and the Security Council, should consider what further action is required to bring an end to the illegal situation resulting from the construction of the Wall and the associated regime, taking due account of the advisory opinion.

7. The Ministers reiterated their firm conviction that such respect and compliance would positively influence the efforts for achieving a just, peaceful and political settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on the basis of the rules and principles of international law. However, in light of the fact that Israel, the occupying Power, is not in compliance with its legal obligations, the

Ministers reiterated their call for the following specific actions aimed at bringing an end to the violations being committed by the occupying Power in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem:

(a) At the United Nations, the Ministers called for further measures to be taken, in accordance with operative paragraph 5 of resolution ES-10/15, and also called on the Security Council to fulfill its responsibilities by adopting a clear resolution on the issue and undertaking the necessary measures in this regard. Further in this regard, the Ministers welcomed the establishment by the United Nations Secretary-General of the United Nations Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, pursuant to the request made by the Assembly in the above resolution, called for the expeditious operation of the Office of the Register of Damage, and stressed the need to ensure that the positions of the Secretariat are fully consistent with the advisory opinion.

(b) With regard to Member States, the Ministers called for measures to be undertaken by them, including by means of legislation, collectively, regionally and individually, to prevent any products of the illegal Israeli settlements from entering their markets, consistent with the obligations under international treaties, to decline entry to Israeli settlers and to impose sanctions against companies and entities involved in the construction of the Wall and other illegal colonization activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem.

(c) With regard to the High Contracting Parties to the Fourth Geneva Convention, the Ministers called for them to adhere to article 1 common to the four Geneva Conventions and to undertake measures to ensure compliance by Israel with the Convention. They reaffirmed in this regard the obligations of the High Contracting Parties regarding penal sanctions, grave breaches and responsibilities of the High Contracting Parties. They affirmed further the importance and called for the application of legal remedies without impunity to war crimes committed in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem.

8. The Ministers expressed their alarm at the deepening economic, social and humanitarian crisis and isolation being endured by the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip. They strongly condemned Israel's continuation of its military aggression against the Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip, which has caused death and injury to hundreds more civilians, including women and children, and the deliberate and wanton destruction of Palestinian property and vital infrastructure. They also condemned its continued imposition of unlawful policies and collective punishment, including via the prolonged closure of all crossings into and out of the Gaza Strip that are causing greater economic and social deprivation of the Palestinian people. They stressed that such unlawful actions by the occupying Power constitute grave breaches of international law for which the perpetrators must be held accountable and brought to justice. The Ministers called for the immediate cessation of Israel's military aggression and compliance with all of its legal obligations under international law, including under the Fourth Geneva Convention.

9. The Ministers reiterated their deep concern at the continuing hardships, including rising unemployment and poverty, being faced by the Palestinian people, particularly in the Gaza Strip, as a result of the international financial and political boycott that had been imposed on the Palestinian Authority. In this connection, they called upon Israel, the occupying Power, to release all remaining tax revenues due to the Palestinian Authority and to cease its imposition of closures on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which continue to cause extensive socioeconomic damage. In light of the continuing difficulties, the Ministers called upon the Non-Aligned countries to continue extending urgent assistance to the Palestinian people to ease the financial and humanitarian crisis.

10. The Ministers affirmed their support for the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole and

legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and the Palestinian Authority under the leadership of President Mahmoud Abbas, and emphasized the importance of maintaining and protecting the national and democratic institutions of the Palestinian Authority, as they shall constitute the vital foundation for the future independent Palestinian State. They called for urgent efforts to rehabilitate and develop Palestinian institutions. In this connection, the Ministers condemned the criminal actions that were carried out in the Gaza Strip in June 2007, and called for the restoration of the situation in the Gaza Strip to that which existed prior to the events of June 2007 to pave the way for national Palestinian dialogue to achieve national reconciliation. They stressed the necessity for the mobilization of Palestinian capabilities to preserve the territorial unity and integrity of the Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, to end the occupation and to achieve the Palestinian national goal.

11. The Ministers reiterated their hope that the international community and the Quartet will exert all efforts during this critical period to revive the peace process and to salvage the Road Map and promote its implementation towards ending the occupation of the Palestinian Territory that was occupied in 1967, including East Jerusalem, and thus realizing the two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the right of all states and peoples in the region to live in peace and security. They called on the Quartet specifically to remain actively engaged with the Palestinian and Israeli sides to bring about a resumption of direct and substantial negotiations between the two sides and to encourage immediate positive steps on the ground, on the basis of the Road Map, in order to promote a genuine resumption of the peace process towards the achievement of its stated aims and goals. In this regard, they welcomed the call by President Mahmoud Abbas for immediate negotiations on final status issues with Israel, the occupying Power.

12. Further in this connection, the Ministers stressed the continued relevance of the Arab Peace Initiative adopted by the Arab Summit in Beirut in March 2002, emphasizing the importance of the decision by the Arab Summit in Riyadh in March 2007 to revive and reinvigorate the Arab Peace Initiative, including through the formation of a Follow-up Arab Ministerial Committee, and expressed support for the efforts being undertaken in that direction. Moreover, they welcomed the initiative to convene a conference in the fall of 2007 aimed at ending the occupation and actualizing the two-State solution. The Ministers also supported the call by President Abbas for the transformation of such a conference into an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations to achieve a comprehensive, just and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, including its core, the question of Palestine, based on the relevant United Nations resolutions and principles of international law.

13. The Ministers also called upon the Security Council to assume its responsibilities and to act on the basis of its own resolutions to compel Israel to respect international law and put an end to Israel's occupation and all of its illegitimate and illegal practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. The Ministers reiterated their appreciation to the members of the NAM Caucus of the Security Council for their continuous efforts concerning the question of Palestine and called upon them to remain actively involved. Moreover, they urged the Quartet to engage the Security Council, considering the Council's Charter authority and responsibility for the maintenance of peace and security. In this context, they reaffirmed the permanent responsibility of the United Nations, including the General Assembly and the Security Council, towards the question of Palestine until it is resolved in all its aspects on the basis of international law, including a just resolution to the plight of the Palestine refugee in accordance with General Assembly resolution 194 of 11 December 1948.

14. The Ministers reiterated their conviction that a vital role should continue to be played by the Movement vis-à-vis the question of Palestine, and entrusted the Chair, assisted by the Committee on Palestine, to lead the efforts of the Movement with regard to the pursuit of a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the region. They stressed the importance of ongoing

contacts and dialogue by the Movement at the ministerial level with the members of the Quartet, the members of the Security Council and other relevant parties in the peace process in order to convey the principled positions of the Movement and to advance efforts aimed at promoting the peace process on the basis of its terms of reference and at ensuring respect for international law, the keys to a peaceful settlement of the conflict.

15. The Ministers also once again underscored the importance of the work of non-governmental organizations (NGOs), civil society and peace groups in the region and encouraged them to continue their positive work, particularly on the Palestinian and Israeli sides.

16. The Ministers concluded by reaffirming their strong commitment to continue supporting the Palestinian people and their leadership to bring an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967, in accordance with the rules and principles of international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, and by accordingly reaffirming their commitment to a just and peaceful solution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and to the right of the Palestinian people to exercise self-determination and sovereignty in their independent State of Palestine, on the basis of the pre-1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

New York, 25 September 2007

United Nations A/62/369

General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 70
Promotion and protection of human rights

Letter dated 21 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of Law No. 376-V of Ukraine on the 1932-1933 Holodomor in Ukraine, of 28 November 2006, as well as the text of the appeal of Victor Yushchenko, President of Ukraine, to international leaders on the Holodomor, of 11 April 2007 (see annexes).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 70.

(*Signed*) Yuriy **Sergeyev**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations

07-52578 (E) 081007

Annex I to the letter dated 21 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Law of Ukraine No. 376-V on the 1932-33 Holodomor in Ukraine

The Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine decides:

Honouring the memory of millions of compatriots who became victims of the 1932-33 Holodomor in Ukraine and of its aftermath;

Respecting all individuals, who survived this horrific tragedy in the history of the Ukrainian people;

Realizing its moral duty to past and future generations of Ukrainians as well as recognizing the necessity of restoring the historic justice and strengthening the intolerance of society towards any manifestations of violence;

Noting that for many decades the tragedy of the 1932-33 Holodomor in Ukraine was officially denied by the authorities of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

Condemning the criminal acts of the totalitarian regime of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics that were aimed at the organization of the Holodomor which resulted in the annihilation of millions of people and the destruction of the social foundation of the Ukrainian people and of its centuries-old traditions, spiritual culture and distinctive ethnic character;

Sympathizing with other peoples of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics who sustained human losses as a result of the Holodomor;

Highly valuing the solidarity and support of the international community in condemning the 1932-33 Holodomor in Ukraine, reflected in the Acts of Parliament of Argentina, Australia, Canada, the Italian Republic, the Republic of Hungary, Lithuania, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Georgia, the Republic of Estonia, and of the United States of America, as well as in the Joint Statement on the seventieth anniversary of the Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine (Holodomor) that was circulated as an official document of the General Assembly and was signed by the Republic of Argentina, the Republic of Azerbaijan, the People's Republic of Bangladesh, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Republic of Georgia, Guatemala, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jamaica, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Korea, the State of Kuwait, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Nauru, Nepal, Pakistan, the State of Qatar, the Republic of Moldova, Mongolia, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, the Republic of South Africa, the Republic of the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United States of America, and the Republic of Uzbekistan, as well as supported by Australia, the State of Israel, the Republic of Serbia and Montenegro and the 25 member States of the European Union;

Proceeding from the Recommendations of the parliamentary hearings regarding the honouring of the memory of the victims of the 1932-33 Holodomor,

approved by the Decree of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine #607-IV of 6 March 2003, as well as from the Appeal of the participants in the 14 May 2003 special session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to the people of Ukraine as to the honouring of victims of the 1932-33 Holodomor, approved by the Decree of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine #789-V of 15 May 2003, where the Holodomor was recognized as an act of genocide of the Ukrainian people, resulting from deliberate acts by the repressive, totalitarian Stalin regime aimed at the mass destruction of a part of the Ukrainian people as well as of other peoples of the former Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

Recognizing, in accordance with the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide of 9 December 1948, the 1932-1933 Holodomor in Ukraine as a purposeful act of mass annihilation of a people, has adopted this Law.

Article 1. The 1932-1933 Holodomor in Ukraine is an act of genocide of the Ukrainian people.

Article 2. Public denial of the 1932-1933 Holodomor in Ukraine shall be recognized as a desecration of the memory of millions of victims of the Holodomor as well as disparagement of the Ukrainian people and shall be unlawful.

Article 3. Organs of State government and local authorities of Ukraine shall undertake, within their competence:

to take part in the formation and realization of the State policy in the field of the restoration and preservation of the national memory of the Ukrainian people;

to promote the consolidation and development of the Ukrainian nation and its historic self-consciousness and culture, as well as the dissemination of information about the Holodomor among citizens of Ukraine and the world public, and to provide for the study of the tragedy of the Holodomor in educational institutions of Ukraine;

to take measures to perpetuate the memory of the victims of the 1932-1933 Holodomor in Ukraine and of those who suffered as a result of it, in particular, through the erection of memorials and obelisks to the victims of the Holodomor;

to facilitate, in accordance with established procedure, access for scientific and public institutions and organizations, scholars and individuals researching the 1932-1933 Holodomor in Ukraine and its aftermath to the archives and other materials regarding the Holodomor.

Article 4. The State shall ensure favourable conditions for research into the 1932-33 Holodomor in Ukraine and for the commemoration of its victims on the basis of a relevant national programme, the annual financing of which shall be made from the State Budget of Ukraine.

Article 5. Final provisions

1. This Law shall enter into force on the date of its publication.

2. The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine shall:

1) Determine the status and functions of the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory and ensure its financing from the State Budget as a specially

authorized body of central executive authorities, responsible for the restoration and preservation of the national memory of the Ukrainian people;

2) within three months from the date of entry into force of this Law:

Submit proposals on harmonization of the legislative acts of Ukraine with this Law for consideration by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine;

Harmonize its normative and legal acts with this Law;

Ensure the revision or cancellation by bodies of executive power of their normative and legal acts which are not in conformity with this Law.

3) Resolve, in accordance with established procedure, together with Kyiv Municipal State Administration, the issue of the construction in the city of Kyiv of a Memorial to victims of Holodomors in Ukraine on the seventy-fifth anniversary of the 1932-1933 Holodomor in Ukraine.

(*Signed*) Victor **Yushchenko**
President of Ukraine

Annex II to the letter dated 21 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Appeal by the President of Ukraine to international leaders on the Holodomor

In the 1930s the Ukrainian nation survived one of the most fearful tragedies in its history, which claimed the lives of millions of people. They became victims of the genocide of the Ukrainian people, which had been planned and implemented by the communist regime — the Holodomor of 1932-1933. This inhuman crime and its catastrophic consequences were officially denied by the USSR authorities for decades.

Now Ukrainian and foreign scientists have revealed incontestable evidence that the tragedy was caused by intentional actions on the part of the authorities at that time aimed at the assassination of the Ukrainian people through famine. Not only grain, but all food products were requisitioned from the Ukrainian people. Delivery of any food products into Ukrainian villages was prohibited. Starving Ukraine was isolated from other regions of the USSR; the free movement of the people into regions not affected by the famine was prohibited.

The above-mentioned actions on the part of the totalitarian regime met all the criteria for genocide according to the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide dated 9 December 1948.

The development of our common future requires the detailed study of the lessons of the past. The international community cannot achieve peace and harmony unless it understands the nature of crimes committed against humankind.

Our duty is to condemn facts of mass killings committed by totalitarian regimes in the past in order to prevent similar crimes in the future.

On 28 November 2006 the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine adopted the Law on the Holodomor of 1932-1933 in Ukraine, according to which the Holodomor was recognized as the genocide of the Ukrainian people.

Ukraine highly appreciates the solidarity and support of the international community in the condemnation of the Holodomor. Our State is grateful to the peoples and parliaments of Australia, Canada, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland and the United States of America, whose legislative authorities have expressed their opinion on the Holodomor genocide.

In my capacity as the President of Ukraine, I call for support for the adoption of the United Nations resolution which would condemn the Holodomor in Ukraine, and I call on the parliamentarians of all countries of the world to join in the recognition of the Holodomor of 1932-1933 in Ukraine as an act of genocide against the Ukrainian nation.

At the same time, I appeal to countries to abide by the principles of justice and mutual respect in their relations, to the parental feelings of those who love their children, to the feelings of children who remember and respect their parents.

This will be another step towards the prevention and eradication of the shameful phenomenon of genocide, with the assistance of the international community and the mutual support of people of goodwill.

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Sixty-second session
Agenda item 8
General debate

Letter dated 25 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

In regard to the statement made by United States President George W. Bush on 25 September 2007 in the general debate of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea would like to make a written reply.

It would be appreciated if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 8.

(*Signed*) **Pak** Gil Yon
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

07-52223 (E) 021007

Annex to the letter dated 25 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Right of reply of the delegation of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the statement made by United States President George W. Bush on 25 September 2007 in the general debate of the sixty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly

United States President George W. Bush made slanderous remarks against our country in his statement today in the general debate of the sixty-second session of the United Nations General Assembly.

His remarks are nothing but a politically motivated, stereotyped accusation against our Republic and not worthy of any comment whatsoever in terms of human rights.

The worst human rights violation at present is the military occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan and the massacre of numerous innocent civilians in those countries by foreign forces. The principal offender is none other than the United States.

Furthermore, the United States has no moral authority to admonish other countries on human rights, since the United States has the world's highest rates of incarceration, extreme racism and all sorts of social evils, such as murder, robbery, drug addiction, prostitution, et cetera.

The United States is advised to clean its own courtyard before slandering others.

United Nations A/62/371

General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Agenda items 54 (c), 58 and 71

Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Eradication of poverty and other development issues

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

Letter dated 5 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Nicaragua to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of the Presidential Decree declaring a state of disaster in the North Atlantic Autonomous Region of the Republic of Nicaragua in response to the emergency situation caused by Hurricane Felix (see annex).

At the same time, I should like to express the gratitude of the people and the Government of Nicaragua for the assistance provided by the United Nations through the bodies and agencies of the United Nations system.

In view of the emergency situation, I should be most grateful if you would arrange to have this letter circulated among Member States under agenda items 54 (c), 58 and 71.

(*Signed*) Maria **Rubiales de Chamorro**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

07-52280 (E) 031007 031007

Annex to the letter dated 5 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Nicaragua to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Decree No. 87-2007

The President of the Republic of Nicaragua,

Considering:

I

That Hurricane Felix, a category 5 hurricane on the Saffir-Simpson scale, made landfall in Nicaragua 15 kilometres to the north of Bilwi in the North Atlantic Autonomous Region, particularly close to Barra Sandy Bay, at 5.15 a.m. local time on Tuesday, 4 September 2007, with wind speeds of 250 kilometres per hour and hurricane winds between Cabo Gracias a Dios and Bilwi in the North Atlantic Autonomous Region;

II

That the National Committee for Disaster Prevention, Mitigation and Response, through the Executive Secretariat of the National System for Disaster Prevention, Mitigation and Response (SINAPRED), decreed a state of red alert for the North Atlantic Autonomous Region, a state of yellow alert for the South Atlantic Autonomous Region, particularly in the municipalities of Laguna de Perlas and La Desembocadura, and a state of green alert for the rest of the national territory;

III

That the Government of Reconciliation and National Unity has taken necessary action by sending members of the SINAPRED National Committee to the North Atlantic Autonomous Region to take charge of the situation;

IV

That the impact of Hurricane Felix has caused considerable material damage and loss of human life and has endangered people and their property;

V

That article 23 of Act No. 337 establishing the National System for Disaster Prevention, Mitigation and Response allows the President of the Republic to declare a state of disaster, at the suggestion of the National Committee or on his own initiative, defined as a public emergency situation caused by an event which endangers persons by affecting their lives, health, assets, work or environment and which requires administrative arrangements, decision-making and availability of extra resources to mitigate and control the effects of the disaster;

By virtue of the powers conferred on him by the Political Constitution,

has enacted the following Decree:

Declaration of a state of disaster in the North Atlantic Autonomous Region

Article 1. In response to the emergency situation, a state of disaster is hereby declared in the North Atlantic Autonomous Region.

Article 2. State ministries and decentralized bodies, within their areas of competence, shall take immediate steps to implement programmes in the territory covered by this declaration that contribute to offsetting the negative effects caused by the collapse of land communications and the destruction of housing and infrastructure and measures to restore basic services for the population, and shall undertake reconstruction efforts.

Article 3. State ministries, with the support of the Caribbean Development Council (CDC), the Nicaraguan Territorial Studies Institute (INETER), the Nicaraguan Institute for Urban and Rural Housing (INVUR), the Nicaraguan Institute for Agricultural Technology (INTA), the Nicaraguan Institute for Municipal Development (INIFOM), the Emergency Social Investment Fund (FISE) and the Nicaraguan Aqueduct and Sewage Company (ENACAL), with funds allocated under the General Budget Act of the Republic and with support sought and obtained from the international community, shall immediately embark on a rehabilitation and reconstruction plan for the communities affected by flooding due to heavy rainfall and other factors.

Article 4. The regional government and the municipal governments affected shall maintain the Committees for Disaster Prevention, Mitigation and Response in an operational state to ensure that, through coordinated action with the Central Government, appropriate care continues to be provided to evacuated persons who are housed in temporary shelters.

Article 5. The SINAPRED Executive Secretariat, the Civil Defence and specialized bodies shall continue to ensure that search, rescue and recovery efforts are carried out for the affected population.

Article 6. This Decree shall enter into force upon publication in the Official Gazette.

Done in the city of Managua, Government House, on 4 September 2007.

(*Signed*) Daniel **Ortega Saavedra**
President of the Republic of Nicaragua

United Nations A/62/372

General Assembly

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Sixty-second session
Agenda items 54 (c), 58 and 71

Sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Eradication of poverty and other development issues

Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance

Letter dated 26 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Nicaragua to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to ask you to circulate, in connection with items 54 (c), 58 and 71 of the agenda of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly, the attached Appeal to the International Community handed to President Daniel Ortega Saavedra by the leaders of the indigenous Miskito, Sumu-Mayangna and Afro-descendant communities of the Región Autónoma del Atlántico Norte (RAAN), containing the final evaluation of damage and requirements for the revitalization of communities and families affected by Hurricane Felix (see annex).

I should be most grateful if you could have this letter and the annex thereto circulated to all Member States, in accordance with the request by the leaders of the communities concerned that the international community should be informed of the situation in the region. The people of the region fell victim to Hurricane Felix, which recently devastated the northern and Caribbean coast, causing huge damage in human, cultural, environmental and output terms.

In his address to the General Assembly on 25 September 2007, President Daniel Ortega Saavedra informed the members of the international community that they would be receiving the document and he called on the peoples and Governments represented at the United Nations to take note of the emergency facing Nicaragua.

(*Signed*) María **Rubiales de Chamorro**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Nicaragua to the United Nations

07-52287 (E) 051007 091007

Annex to the letter dated 26 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Nicaragua to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Appeal to the International Community handed to President Daniel Ortega Saavedra by the leaders of the indigenous Miskito, Sumu-Mayangna and Afro-descendant communities of the Región Autónoma del Atlántico Norte (RAAN)

Final evaluation of damage and requirements for the revitalization of communities and families affected by Hurricane Felix

23 September 2007

I. Introduction

1. The Caribbean coast, which is ethnically diverse and culturally rich, occupies 46 per cent of Nicaragua's territory and is divided in two autonomous regions. Its natural and human assets, history, cultural diversity and geographical location are essential elements that allow its inhabitants to enjoy a decent standard of living and that make a real social, economic and political contribution to the country.

2. However, when Hurricane Felix, a category 5 storm, made landfall at dawn on 4 September 2007, in the Región Autónoma del Atlántico Norte, at a point 51 kilometres north of Bilwi, it revealed just how vulnerable systematic impoverishment and exclusion had made Nicaragua's Caribbean region, for the hardest hit were the indigenous (Miskito and Sumu-Mayangna) and Afro-descendant peoples.

3. This is not only a tragedy in human, cultural, ecological and output terms, but also an opportunity for community, district, regional, municipal and national actors to make a concerted and coherent effort to promote regional development.

4. The recently formulated regional development proposal, the work of various sectors in the region, provides a very clear road map for development, and should serve as the foundation for efforts to cope with the emergency and to revive the region.

5. This document details the principal damage caused by Hurricane Felix and establishes the basic framework of action for the next six months, focusing on:

(a) Basic humanitarian assistance for the population affected, in terms of health, food, shelter and social infrastructure;

(b) Rehabilitation of fishery and agricultural output;

(c) Protection against forest fires;

(d) Use of forestry resources for the urgent rehabilitation of housing and infrastructure.

6. Finally, it is important to emphasize that this reconstruction process goes beyond the physical rehabilitation of dwellings and roofs or supplying food to the population. In addressing this emergency, it is important to keep in mind that we are

trying to help the indigenous communities re-establish the very essence of their community life, their identities and their aspirations, all of which were cut short in the early morning of 4 September.

Damage summary

7. Data collected by the regional authorities, in coordination with national Government institutions and the National System for Disaster Prevention, Mitigation and Relief (SINAPRED), indicate that 33,687 families, a total of 198,069 persons, have been affected to date.

8. According to reports from the inhabitants, the number of deaths may be over 300. Various Government institutions confirmed and notarized the deaths of 102 persons, only 67 of whom have been identified, leaving 35 unidentified. In addition, 133 people have been reported as missing; 106 of these reports were notarized.

9. The irreparable loss of human life has been accompanied by an extensive ecological disaster with serious consequences, affecting over 1.3 million hectares, including 477,000 hectares of forest, which were devastated. The cost cannot be measured solely in terms of the quantity of wood lost, but must include the damage to biodiversity and the ecosystem, as well as the disappearance of the historical and cultural reference that this forest represents for the indigenous communities.

10. The infrastructure destroyed consists of 20,394 houses, 57 churches, 102 schools, 43 health centres, 86,538 hectares of traditional and non-traditional crops and 40,011 head of livestock (including both large and small species; 70.8 per cent of the poultry was lost, as was 18.9 per cent of pigs and 10.2 per cent of cattle and a large amount of fishing vessels and equipment (1,366 small boats and 48,355 items of fishing tackle). Five hundred kilometres of all-weather roads, bridges and drains were damaged or destroyed. Particularly significant was the partial destruction of the region's only seaport.

11. The preliminary appraisal of damage caused by the hurricane is around $850 million.

Our response

Food

12. The strategy to address the nutritional needs of the affected population aims to ensure the direct flow of provisions to the communities for six months; provide access to seed and agricultural inputs; replace poultry and small livestock; and provide emergency funding so that the affected fishermen can replace their boats and equipment.

13. By the end of this initial emergency period, basic grains such as beans and corn will have been harvested; root vegetables will have been planted; poultry and small livestock will have been replaced; and fishing production will have resumed.

14. Approximately 18,000 metric tons of provisions are needed for the first six months. International organizations, such as the World Food Programme, and other countries have offered 4,500 metric tons, which are already en route. This leaves a

shortfall of 13,500 metric tons. An estimated $16.5 million is needed to meet the shortfall in food procurement during the emergency period.

Housing and social infrastructure

15. The hurricane destroyed 20,394 homes; rebuilding them will cost US$ 100 million, US$ 4 million of which is urgently needed to provide temporary shelters for homeless families during this critical part of the rainy season.

16. A total of 102 schools were destroyed or damaged. The complete reconstruction of these schools in the medium term will cost $11.4 million. However, 19,800 sheets of zinc are needed immediately to build roofs on the most damaged schools. This will cost $330,000.

17. Fifty-seven churches were destroyed or left without roofs and each requires an average of 200 sheets of zinc. Rebuilding this essential community infrastructure will cost $6.1 million; the cost of immediate urgent repairs is $200,000.

18. An additional $23 million will be needed for reconstruction of the only port in the region with access to the sea. In summary, $148 million is needed to rebuild homes and the social and religious infrastructure.

Risk management

19. Furthermore, as part of overall risk management efforts, there are plans to invest $2.5 million in early warning systems, equipment and civilian training.

20. The aim is to provide each community with at least three safe shelters — a church, a health centre and a school — built using appropriate technology so that they can withstand emergency situations.

Health

21. With respect to health infrastructure, 43 health centres were damaged or destroyed; seven sets of communication equipment, including solar panels and transponders, were destroyed; and 49 units of the cold chain system need to be repaired, replaced or reinstalled to enable epidemiological surveillance.

22. During the emergency period, the three priority areas in health care are:

(a) *Epidemiological surveillance*: Activities include the repair of situation rooms and communication networks, the mobilization of personnel and the repair of the cold chain system.

(b) *Maintenance of health-care services*: Health-care services will be maintained using existing human resources in the region, and available external resources will be stabilized.

(c) *Infrastructure reconstruction and equipment replacement*: The repair or reconstruction of health-care units could cost as much as US$ 1,570,000. The cost of equipment replacement is calculated at $1,230,000.

23. This emergency has underlined the urgent necessity of building a 150-bed regional hospital, which will cost $30 million.

24. In order to maintain health-care services and respond to epidemiological risks, approximately $7.2 million must be invested over the next six months. This sum includes the funds needed to increase human resources within the region.

25. The total amount required for the health sector during the six-month emergency period is $40 million.

Restoration of production capacity

26. The restoration of production capacity will enable the affected population to resume productive lives. Efforts will be focused on agricultural production and fishing.

Agricultural sector

27. In an effort to recover productive stability and boost regional productive capacity, 75.6 thousand acres (75,000 *manzanas*) of wetlands will be rehabilitated for the production of basic grains (beans and corn), root vegetables (cassava and malanga), plantains and fruits and small livestock, particularly pigs and fowl, will be replaced. Some 25,000 rural families will participate in the project.

28. It is estimated that $46 million will be needed for this emergency rehabilitation; the funds will be used for seed, inputs and the replacement of small livestock.

Fishing sector

29. The damage in the fishing sector includes the loss of fishing boats, tackle and equipment. It has been calculated that around 6,000 heads of families in 25 coastal communities make their living from fishing and have lost the immediate capacity to return to work. Of these heads of families, 4,000 are registered small-scale fishermen and 2,000 were divers prior to the hurricane.

30. The emergency rehabilitation programme covers financing for small-scale fishermen who have lost their tackle but not their main equipment and for operational costs.

31. On the other hand, steps are being taken to encourage divers to become small-scale fishermen, including by providing them with necessary equipment and tackle.

32. The total amount required for these two aspects is US$ 21 million — $8 million to finance the existing fishermen and $13 million to help the divers switch to fishing.

Protection and use of forests

33. It is estimated that the hurricane damaged 1,306,580 hectares of forest, 477,000 of which were flattened. The large amount of fallen vegetation presents a serious threat to life in this region because it could cause an outbreak of forest fires. Rapid action must be taken to prevent forest fires and also to make use of the fallen trees so that they may be used for rebuilding and thus spur the economic recovery of the communities.

Fire protection plan

34. The plan for protection against forest fires will be carried out between September 2007 and June 2008 and entails three major activities:

(a) Organization and equipping of 175 community fire brigades, which will entail training, operational activities and the provision of equipment. An estimated $3.5 million will be required.

(b) A dynamic dissemination plan will also be developed in order to raise awareness and educate the public regarding the risks of using fire in agriculture, particularly under the present conditions. This activity will cost approximately $1.5 million.

(c) Rehabilitation of the forest protection infrastructure in the affected areas. This activity involves the construction of 20 forest control towers and 180 bridges and the rehabilitation or clearing of 2,500 kilometres of roads to facilitate access to forest areas. An estimated $10.3 million will be required.

Plan for the use of fallen trees

35. Within the framework of Presidential Decree 92-07, a programme for the use of fallen trees will be implemented to meet the demand for housing rehabilitation and reconstruction for the affected families.

36. This activity includes the procurement of 75 power saws, 30 portable sawmills, 30 small agricultural tractors to transport the wood without causing major damage to the soil, and other smaller tools. This will require a total of $3.0 million over the next six months.

37. The total amount required for the forest sector is $18.3 million.

38. The emergency intervention for the next six months will require a total amount of $292.3 million:

(Thousands of United States dollars)

Food	16 500
Housing rehabilitation and shelter plan	148 000
Risk management	2 500
Health	40 000
Agricultural rehabilitation	46 000
Rehabilitation of the fishing sector	21 000
Protection and use of forests	18 300
Total	**292 300**

Signed by the indigenous community leaders of the Región Autónoma del Atlántico Norte

(*Various signatures*)

United Nations A/62/373

General Assembly

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Agenda item 18
Question of Palestine

Letter dated 24 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose, in my capacity as Chair of the OIC Group at New York, a statement on behalf of the Organization of the Islamic Conference regarding the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem (see annex).

It is requested that you kindly circulate the attached statement as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 18.

(*Signed*) Munir **Akram**

07-52410 (E) 031007

Annex to the letter dated 24 September 2007 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement by the Organization of the Islamic Conference Group on the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem

21 September 2007

The Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) Group at the United Nations condemned in the strongest terms the decision of Israel's Security Cabinet on 19 September 2007 declaring the occupied Gaza Strip an "enemy entity" and its intention to cut off power and fuel supplies to the already isolated and imprisoned Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip.

The OIC Group stressed that this cruel decision by Israel is a blatant violation of international law, including international humanitarian law, and amounts to the collective punishment of the entire Palestinian civilian population in the Gaza Strip and would further exacerbate the already dire humanitarian crisis that prevails in Gaza.

The OIC Group called upon the international community to compel Israel, the occupying Power, to halt all of its violations and grave breaches of international law and to scrupulously abide by its legal obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention, which is applicable to all of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem. In this connection, it must be emphasized that the Gaza Strip is part of the Occupied Palestinian Territory.